

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 00028 072336Z

62

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25

NEA-10 LAB-06 HEW-08 JUSE-00 DRC-01 /164 W

----- 037164

O 072317Z JAN 74 ZFF4

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2227

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0028

FROM AMB FERGUSON

PASS LABOR, HEW, JUSTICE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, SOCI

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS AND NATIONAL STANDARDS

RELATING TO THE STATUS OF WOMEN--POSITION PAPER

AGENDA ITEM 4(B) STATUS OF WOMEN, WORKING GROUP

1. URGENTLY REQUEST DEPARTMENT TO RECONSIDER POSITION
PAPER FOR ABOVE SUBJECT. FOUR PARAS RELATING TO
US POSITION REQUIRE:

PARA 1- "US DEL SHOULD ACTIVELY DISCOURAGE DRAFTING
OF A NEW CONVENTION ON THIS SUBJECT...";

PARA 2-IF CONVENTION DRAFTED "US DEL SHOULD OPPOSE...";

PARA 3-"WHILE DISCOURAGING DRAFTING OF CONVENTION,
US DEL SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE US DEDICATED TO IMPROVE-
MENT OF STATUS OF WOMEN...";

PARA 4-"IF DRAFT CONVENTION ADOPTED BY WORK NG GROUP,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 00028 072336Z

US DEL SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ABSTAIN WITH EXPLANATION

INDICATING UNDER FEDERAL SYSTEM IT VERY UNLIKELY US
WOULD BE ABLE TO SIGN OR RATIFY..."

2. WE BELIEVE THIS POSITION COMPLETELY UNTENABLE, OVER-
STATED AS A MATTER OF LAW AND DAMAGING TO US INTERESTS IN
UN AND DOMESTIC FEMALE CONSTITUENCY.

3. RE PARA 1 US POSITION, THERE IS NOT SLIGHTEST CHANCE
US WILL BE ABLE ACTIVELY OR OTHERWISE TO DISCOURAGE DRAFTING
OF CONVENTION. ARGUMENTATION SUGGESTED ABSOLUTELY NOT
PERSUASIVE AS AMPLY DEMONSTRATED IN PARALLEL INSTANCES
IN WHICH SAME ARGUMENT PUT FORWARD REGARDING HUMAN
RIGHTS CONVENTIONS RELATING TO RACE. MOREOVER, BOTH
IN INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC CONSTITUENCIES US POSITION
WILL APPEAR SIMPLY TO BE THAT OF OUTRIGHT OPPOSITION.

4. RE PARA 2, WHILE THOUGHT IS SOUND, MUCH TOO LATE IN THE
DAY TO PERSUADE ANYBODY THAT DECLARATION AND "INTERNATIONAL
INSTRUMENTS CONTAINING SIMILAR PROVISIONS, SHOULD BE
EXAMINED TO DETERMINE WHETHER, IN LIGHT OF COURRENT
EXPERIENCE AND THOUGHT, THEIR PRINCIPLES AND TERMS
SERVE TO ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN."

5. RE PARA 4, WE HAVE STRONG OPINIONS THAT AN ABSTENTION ON
GROUNDS "THAT UNDER THE FEDERAL SYSTEM IT VERY UNLIKELY
US WOULD BE ABLE TO SIGN OR RATIFY ANY NEW CONVENTION...
BECAUSE OF CONSTITUTIONAL CONFLICTS OR CONFLICTS WITH
STATE AND LOCAL LAWS." WE BELIEVE WE CANNOT TAKE SUCH A
POSITION UNTIL WE SEE ACTUAL TEXT OF PROPOSED CONVENTIONS,
MOREOVER, PAST EXAMINATIONS, E.G., RACE CONVENTIONS,
HAVE REVEALED THAT THIS ARGUMENT VERY MUCH OVERSTATS
ACTUAL CASE.

6. STRONGLY RECOMMEND WE BE GIVEN AUTHORITY TO PURSUE
MATTER ALONG FOLLOWING LINES; (A) ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE
IN WG DRAFTING, OPPOSING THOSE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS
INCOMPATIBLE WITH OUR DOMESTIC LAW; (B) ACTIVELY
ESPOUSING THOSE PROVISIONS WHICH COMPATIBLE WITH DOMESTIC
LAW; AND (C) RESERVING OUR OVERALL POSITION UNTIL WE SEE ACTUAL
TEXT AND MAKE JUDGMENT OF POSITION ON TEXT AS A WHOLE.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 00028 072336Z

7. MEETING TODAY REVEALED A CONSENSUS AMONG MEMBERS OF WG
THAT SINGLE COMPREHENSIVE CONVENTION DESIRABLE. PHILIPPINE
DRAFT CONVENTION (DOC E/CN.6/573) AND SOVIET DRAFT
(TO BE MADE AVAILABLE 1/8) ALONG WITH EXISTING
DECLARATION WILL SERVE AS WORKING PAPERS FOR WG
CONSIDERATION.
BENNETT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISCRIMINATION, WOMEN, AGREEMENTS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974USUNN00028
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740157/aaaacckq.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <19 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS AND NATIONAL STANDARDS RELATING TO THE STATUS OF WOMEN--POSITION PAPER
TAGS: SOCI, US, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005